

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect, with traverse, the claims of Group II, claims 1, 4, 5, 16, 18, 20, 23, 24, 39, and 41, drawn to a clostridial neurotoxin substrate wherein the neurotoxin is botulinum neurotoxin serotype B and a kit containing the substrate. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute non-elected claims in other future divisional applications.

Applicants kindly request reconsideration of the Restriction requirement. This application is a continuation of an allowed application wherein the claims drawn to substrates of neurotoxin serotype A (4 substrates) were examined. Applicants kindly request that the substrates for all the remaining neurotoxins, i.e. B, F, D, and E, a total of 7 substrates, be considered together in this application so that general claims 1, 20, and 39 drawn to a substrate for any neurotoxin be examined. It is believed that the small number of substrates does not place undue burden on the Examiner. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.


An early and favorable examination on the merits is kindly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on August 30, 2004.

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